Bellties
Scone N.S.W.
6th October 1919

Memo of arrangement made by H L White of Bellties with William McLennan in connection with a trip to the island of Torres Straits.

Travelling expenses to be paid up to the time of sailing from Thursday Island from which place H L White is to provide a sailing boat equipped and provisioned.

W McLennan is to receive pay at the rate of five pounds (£5.) per week, payable quarterly at the Bank of Queensland, Thursday Island.

H L White to provide the necessary native labour to assist with the boat, and the outfit required for exploring ornithologically the islands of Torres Straits

Henry L. White

W McLennan

"BELLTREES," (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.

To Mr Wm McLennan
G.P.O. Sydney

2nd April 1927

Dear Sir Under separate cover, registered, I send one of Stulls printed lists, with prices marked against certain species. It is very roughly made out, but I am pushed for time & could do no better under the conditions. Sherrin's skins arrived the day you left, a nice lot, I'd like you to have seen them; they were taken chiefly near Herberton: not backed like yours, & somewhat damaged.

I hope your cold is on the improve, & none the worse for your trip to Belltrees.

Kind regards.

Yours faithfully
A. L. White

Mr Mr McCurran
Upper Richmond
Via Hill

Dear Sir Murder appears never despised, I send you a Murder Punished Sir, with Pirates murdered represent Victorian officers. It is very hard for people not but I am pinched for time I could do no better under the circumstances.

Wishing Africa success

the day people left, a voice left. In this people have been times; they were taken Chief for very Murderers: not murder like yours, I remained Prisoned.

I hope yours will be in the improve, I move the news for your help to Victoria.

Hoping success.

Your faithful friend
[illegible]

"BELLTREES." (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.

Mr W. McLennan
G.P.O. Sydney

18th July 1922

Dear Sir

Upon receipt of yours of the 14th Inst, I made up my mind to meet you in Sydney, but a few minutes ago I recd a telephone message announcing the death of Mr J.P. Stafford, of Scone, a personal friend & leading resident: I must attend his funeral & forego my visit to Sydney. I do not like dragging you up here, but see no way out of it. If you do not object to travelling by night, you can leave Sydney by the Glen Innes train at 8.30 pm: arriving Scone 3.50 next morning: I can have your horse & brought out straight away reaching here by 6 am. You can then sleep until 9 am, do our business together, & return to Sydney same night.

If you think it is advisable not to come up but to get straight away, do so by all means: but personally I'd like an interview.

In case of your requiring them I enclose orders to Mr. Beaumont of 50 Young St, & to Cowley & Dunn.

I have your renewed permit, will send it after you, if you decide not to come here.

A man named Sherrin is up Cootamundra way collecting birds, animals etc, & he is going right up the peninsula: wants me to give him an order & I shall probably do so, though I don't expect much.

Kind regards.

Yours very truly
J.L. White

ENTOMOLOGY

also distance Coxheroo to Port Stewart & from there to Coen.

"BELLTREES." (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.
23rd July 1922

Mr W. McLennan
C/o G.P.O. Sydney

Dear Sir,

I was hardly surprised to hear from you of the 15th inst. that you had to give in to the bad cold that had been hanging about you for so long. No use writing to Carterton, for, if recovered, you would leave for Sydney very shortly, where a couple of letters from me will await your arrival.

I have nothing much to add to my last, except that I'd much like you to come here if you have the time to spare: if your illness has upset any plans, I presume you prefer to push on north with as little delay as possible. Any how, wire me your decision after reading this.

You will be grieved to hear that one of the opossums died last night, from what would appear to be acute dysentery, at least so I judge from a post mortem. Will send the body to the Museum tomorrow. Both animals appear to eat well, & their diet has not been changed.

Mrs Harden tells me her four parrots are doing very well; similar news from the Foo.

Think I told you a man named Sherrin was collecting skins & eggs about Laura, pap he is going to work the whole peninsula: do not suppose he will interfere with you though: he may do something for me at contract prices. I told him I did not care to be mixed up in collecting without a permit: his main object is animals for British Museum.

Kind regards.

Yours faithfully
H. L. White

For my article I want to know the geological formation about Coen, & distances from Laura;

"BELLTREES." (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.
10th Augt. 1922

Mr W. McLennan
C/o G.P.O. Sydney

Dear Sir

I was very pleased to receive yours of the 6th Inst yesterday: you paid a late fee I notice, & the date mark is 8 pm 7th Instt, but the letter evidently did not leave Sydney until the 8th. My opinion of our Postal Deptt is not much better than yours, & I'm continually reporting.

In the matter of list of egg prices, if you notice any glaring errors or inconsistencies please alter.

If you can possibly manage it, I want you to call on Dr A. Jefferis Turner, Wickham Terrace, Brisbane, & go into the matter of the ant hill north which he finds to be a new genus, if not a new family. Probably you have heard all about it from the Sydney Museum people. I am asking Dr Turner to supply an article for next "Emu" after having obtained all the information he requires from you.

In the matter of your Moa island notes, I value them very highly & do not wish to run a risk of losing the book: where do you suggest that I send it, I don't like the idea of it being kept in a damp camp? You are of course quite welcome if I am assured of its safety.

Very satisfactory hearing that your health is so much better, I do hope you get away without a fresh cold: the warmer climate up north may soon set you up again.

Keep me fully posted about your doings. Yours very truly
Kind regards from us both. T L White

BELLTREES,

SCONE,

20th Augt 1922

Mr W. McLennan
Coen
via Cooktown Q'land

Dear Sir

I visited Sydney during last week, & called at the Museum, where Mr Kinghorn informed me your snake had been made a new genus, & named after you: this is satisfactory, & you probably heard of it before leaving for the North. Dr Turner of Brisbane writes me that you had been to see him about the moth, & he appears quite satisfied with your description of the habits: he is now searching for a name to represent "Scavenger" in Greek.

The Scotch parson in charge of this Parish called on me last Monday, & informed me he had met you some years ago at the Archer River: he is the man who was badly wounded by a native at Morning Island Mission Station: his name is Owen. Very strange how we drop into people occasionally.

This note will probably reach Coen before you do. Keep me well informed of your movements, & continue your most useful diary.

Hoping your cold has gone, & with kind regards.

Yours faithfully

S. L. White

"BELLTREES," (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.,

Mr W. McLennan
Coen Via Cooktown Q'ld

30th Augt 1922

Dear Sir I have yours of the 21st Inst written from Cairns: the copy of "The Workers Compensation Act" is also to hand (yesterday only); will write you further when I have studied it. As requested I send, per parcel post, your Moa Island diary: it is too heavy (over 1 lb) to go as a registered packet.

I hope the warmer climate is curing your bad cold, & that you will shortly get to work in the Rocky Scrub.

Yours faithfully
H. L. White

Dr Turner has named your moth Neossiosynoeca scatophaga - meaning a dung eater living with nestling birds; rather a jaw breaker I think.

"BELLTREES" (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.

Mr W. M. Lemnan
Coen Via Cooktown

1st Septr 1927

Dear Sir

While I think of it I must give you a message from Mr Campbell, who has lately examined skins of Strepera graculina sent me from Herberton, Mathews type locality for S. robinsoni: if they are of the last named subspecies, then your birds from Coen are different again, being larger even than our northern form. We wish to settle the point by your sending me a pair of mature skins as soon as you can obtain them. Mr C. wishes to know also if you have observed Pachycephala melanura or pectoralis on the Peninsula (the female has a yellow breast). I secured a specimen at Moa I.d. What thickheads do you know of on C. York Peninsula? Please send skins of any you come across.

Yours faithfully
H. L. White

Kind regards

"BELLTREES," (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.,
10th Sept 1922

Mr W. McLennan
Coen Via Cooktown

Dear Sir

Yours of the 29th Ult reached me yesterday: very pleased to hear of your safe arrival at Cooktown, & hope by the time this arrives you will have started on the Rocky Scrub trip. Am afraid you may be late for some of the good things, such as Cassowary: by the way, I should like a flat skin of the bird in question, if you can secure a good specimen.

The man Sherrin, who I told you had been at Cooktown, has now returned to Sydney: he sent me some good skins & a lot of common stuff. I hope you have completely shaken off the bad cold. Kind regards.

Yours very truly S. L. White

"BELLTREES," (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.

Mr W. McLennan
Coen Via Cooktown

17th Sept 1922

Dear Sir

Very pleased to hear, by wire of the 13th Inst., of your safe arrival at Coen, & trust your health is OK. In wiring me, just address "H. White Belltrees", no need for "L", "Scone" or "N.S.W."

No news this week. Mathews has finished his Vol IX, the last part containing the family Acanthiza, a most difficult group to deal with, but ably handled by G.M.M. A blot on his work is the vindictive manner in which he treats A.J. Campbell.

I trust you may have fine weather for the trip, at least as fine as is possible in that humid climate. Wire me when there is anything to report. I am very anxious to see the Strepera skins, mature ♂ & ♀, or more even than a hair if possible.

Kind regards. Yours very truly H. L. White

Copy

Coen.L...
19/9/2[illegible]

Dear Mr.White

Your letter of Aug.30th,and the Mou L.Diary to hand last mail. I received your previous letter of Aug 20 th just before leaving Cooktown.

I will be leaving for Rocky scrub to-morrow and intend coming in again,in about three weeks time. After that I will probably stay out there till the end of the year, as one loses too much time coming in and out.

I am sending you a list of expenses,upto date of arrival at Pt.Stewart. Will you please forward the amount to my credit,with the Queensland National Bank.Cooktown.

In the same enclosure I am also sending a typed copy of the narrative,up to Sept.15th. I suggest that you pay me at the rate of 3/ per thousand words for this copy.The city charge for copying Manuscript,a o nts to 7/4 per thousand,and I think that it is worth a little more for this part of the world.

I have submitted your price list to Mr,Anderson; he is very much disappointed with it,as you have only quoted the rarest birds of the district. He does not think it worth while to try for them alone.

Yours Sincerely

LIST OF EXPS ROCKY SCRUB TRIP.N.Q.

1932			£	s	d
July- 7th	- Wire.Casterton to H.L.White	-		1	6
8th	- Wire.Melbourne to H.L.White	-		1	4
	Ticket & exes Melbourne to Sydney	-	4	18	8
29th	- Wire.Sydney to H.L.White	-		1	0
Aug 5th	- Wire.H.Thompson.Coen.re pack team & gear. Reply paid.	-		5	5
	Wire.D.Anderson.Coen.re sending word to H.T.if out of town.	-		3	0
8th	- Esdailes.Sydney.adjusting Aneroid 5/. & cleaning Field Glasses 25/	-	1	10	0
9th	- Hotel exes Sydney,while attending to details in connection with Trip. 1 week.	-	4	4	0
11th	- Cowles & Dunn.Sydney. 2 batteries & [illegible] bulbs for Electric torch.	-		[illegible]	0
	Penfolds.Sydney. 500 Skin & 100 plain labels.	-	1	5	[illegible]
	7 Field notebooks.	-		3	6
	Passage S.S.Wyrema.Sydney to Cooktown.	-	19	5	0
12th	- Wire.Sydney to H.L.White.	-		1	0
	Taxi to A.U.S.N.Co'wharf.	-		7	6
	Luggage Porter.	-		3	0
14th	- Brisbane. Copy Workers Compensation Act.	-		[illegible]	0
	Scrub Knife [illegible]5/. 1 bot Indian ink [illegible]2/9	-		17	[illegible]
	Card of Map pens [illegible]1/6. Ferrules for red[illegible]3/	-		4	6
19th	- Cairns.Luggage Porter	-		[illegible]	0
	Cab to Hotel.	-		5	0
21st	- [illegible] Suits Khaki [illegible]0/ each. Bush Hat [illegible]0/	-	5	0	0
22nd	- Cab to S.S.Kuranda. 5/. Luggage Porter [illegible]/.	-		7	0
	Hotel exes. 4 days [illegible]2/ per day.	-	2	[illegible]	0
	Total	-	44	4	[illegible]

1932		£	s	d
Aug 23rd -	Cooktown. Luggage Porter.	-	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Cab to Hotel.	-	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Freight & charges on cargoe from Sydney to Cooktown	-	4	[illegible]
	Wire. A.Armbrust. Coen.	-	[illegible]	4
25th -	Hip On.Grocers. [illegible] lbs Onions [illegible]/. 4[illegible] lbs Potatoes [illegible]/[illegible]. [illegible] lbs Bacon [illegible]/[illegible]. 4 doz.Matches [illegible]/. 4 bars Soap [illegible]/[illegible]. 1 low line for Rope ladder. 16/6. [illegible] tn.plates. [illegible] tn.mug [illegible]/[illegible]. 4 Corn sacks [illegible]/4. 1 yd Mosquito net [illegible]/[illegible].	-	4	4	[illegible]
	Meldrum.Stationer. [illegible] Writing pads [illegible]/. [illegible] pkts.Envelopes [illegible]/. 1 bot.Onoto ink [illegible]/	-	[illegible]	7	[illegible]
	Timber yard. 11 ft.14x1 in.Fine,for making pack boxes	-	[illegible]	[illegible]	6
	Mahlten.Gunsmith.repairs 410 Gun [illegible]/. 410 Cartridges. [illegible] pkts of [illegible] each [illegible]/.	-	[illegible]	5	6
	Medicine chest. 2 bot.Tonic [illegible]/. [illegible] cakes Carbolicidal soap [illegible]/. 1 bot.Tinct.Iodine [illegible]/. 1 bot.Hydrogen Peroxide [illegible]/9. 1 bot.Pot.Permanganate [illegible]/6. [illegible] bot.Yellow pills [illegible]/. 1 bot.Hennessys Brandy [illegible]/6.	-	[illegible]	17	9
26th -	T.Ashford.for making Rope ladder canvas collecting bag.	-	[illegible]	10	0
	Tinsmith. 1 Still [illegible]/6. 1 dish [illegible]/. 1 coil of Copper wire [illegible]/.	-		15	6
	Stamps to date.	-		1	1
Sept 3rd -	Hotel exes. 11 days [illegible]/ per day.	-	5	10	
8th -	J.Neilson.Freight on 2 tons of cargo & Fare Cooktown to Ft.Stewart.	-	[illegible]	0	0
			[illegible]	15	[illegible]
	Brought forward		44	4	[illegible]
	TOTAL		76	[illegible]	4

"BELLTREES," (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.,
24th Septr 1927

Mr W. McLennan
Coen Via Cooktown Qld

Dear Sir

I have your wire of the 20th Instt, reading "Leaving for Rocky scrub today". I sincerely hope your health may hold good & the weather favourable. It is a chance of course, but I expect something good from this trip.

Whitbeck is in the Stanmerley Range W.A., & has heard of your Fathers disappearance there: he describes the range proper as running to the highest Known point in W.A. (viz Mt Bruce 4024 ft) extremely rocky & barren throughout; the foot hills are better, & parts of the Fortescue River good. The higher country cut up by ravines in all directions.

Kind regards.

Yours very truly
H. L. White

"BELLTREES," (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.,
1st Octr 1927

Mr W. McLennan
Coen Via Cooktown Q'ld

Dear Sir

Just my Sunday's usual note; there is nothing much of interest to write about. Last week Mr A.J. Campbell sent a proof of the article he prepared for me, from your diary of the Coen trip, for publication in "The Sun": I had not the time necessary to compile the account myself. Am not altogether satisfied, but it is too late to make alterations, as the paper comes out this week. Mr A.J.C. misses particularly to see skins of the Pseudogerygone personata, kindly try to secure a couple of pairs for me. Jackson left last week for a trip to near where the R.A.O.U. camp out was held last year, where he is to search for eggs of Rifle bird, Atrichia & Ground Parrot. Hoping you are well, & with kind regards.

Yours very truly
H.L. White

"BELLTREES," (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.,

Mr W. McLennan
Coen Via Cooktown Q'ld

8th Oct 1922

Dear Sir The only news I have is that the October "Lmn" is out, & you occupy a very prominent place in it. By the time this reaches Coen, you will have your copy; I'll send reprints to the Sergeant & Mr Anderson later.

The illustrations are numerous & good (I am paying for them) but I'm not satisfied with the letter press: your notes are so long & full that the compilation of an article from them is work for a trained press-writer, a qualification which few of us possess unfortunately. I trust you will not be very much disappointed. I am anxiously waiting news of your doings, but suppose nothing will come, except by wire for some weeks.

Yours faithfully
N. L. White

Kind regards.

"BELLTREES." (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.
15th Octr 1922

Mr W. M. Leman
Coen Via Cooktown Qld

Dear Sir

From your wire of the 10th I was very sorry to hear of the bad season you are experiencing: the message reads "In from Rocky Scrub today has not been any rain" "there for months stop Will have to leave if do not get rain" "within fortnight nothing of note to date". This is in marked contrast to your last experience there, & one could well imagine yourself in a different country altogether. Your wire of the 17th Inst runs as follows "Posted one box" "specimens one packet notes and Hallo Key stop Steady" "good country southern end of scrub propose shifting camp" "to there". I hope your luck may change in the new locality; what a wonderful difference to your last season when everything went so well. I am having a taste of very indifferent luck this season: Whittock has taken nothing, & Jackson has struck a duffer.

Our season here is causing us much concern, hot windy days with frosty nights, a most unholy combination, & one I never previously experienced. Hoping you are quite well, & with kind regards.

Yours faithfully
A. L. White

Belltrees (Connected with Scone by Telephone)

Scone
N.S.W.

To Mr W. M. Leman
Coen Via Cooktown

22nd Octo 1922

Dear Sir

Yours of the 19th ult. is only just to hand, but I note it bears Coen post mark 27th, so its posting was evidently delayed.

I have your wire re the failure of the Rocky trip & can only hope for better luck in future.

Sorry to hear that Mr Anderson is disappointed with my price list of eggs; however, not being a dealer, a large supply of common eggs would be wasted on me: I offered him the best I can do.

Your typed notes & a/c for expenses are to hand, I'll send a draft, as requested, to your credit with the Queensland National Bank during the week.

Owing to the great expense that your collecting now puts me to, I have decided to terminate our connection in this respect, as soon as your Rocky trip is over; in any case not later than the end of December next.

Hoping you are well, & with best wishes.

Yours faithfully
A. L. White

Registered

"BELLTREES." (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.

29th Octr 1922

Mr Wm McLennan
Coen Via Cooktown

Dear Sir

Yours of the 11th Inst reached me last week, an unusually quick trip; none of the packages mentioned are yet to hand, but I expect them tomorrow.

Bad luck appears to attend you this season, the absence of rain being a factor no doubt: I hope you are keeping clear of all ailments, I did not like the look of that fainting fit that came on during the trip from Port Stewart. I note from the papers that a nigger "Tommy" had been speared by another nigger near Coen, hope the victim was not your old boy.

Under separate cover I send a copy of last "Queenslander" with some illustrations, & an article, on the natives of Groote Eylandt. What a pity it is that missionaries should be allowed to establish themselves on the island: I am quite of your opinion that they are more often a curse than a blessing.

I am sending Whitlock your message & hope he may be of some use, but the Stanerley Range covers such a large area (some 200 x 50 miles) of mostly inaccessible, barren, country; that the locating of any particular spot appears difficult. Whitlock is now out in the range & I have had no news of him for a month.

I am paying Beaumont £6.0.2, on your a/c, for a waterproof coat.

Kind regards & best wishes

Yours faithfully
H. L. White

A "Yellow-footed Pouched Mouse" (Phascogale flavipes) of the family Dasyuridae which also includes the Native Cats. A fine specimen, it is of considerable interest on account of its large size & the locality, which extends the northern range of the species. Phascogale flavipes is noted for its variety of colouration but cranial and dental characteristics enable one definitely to identify it.

"BELLTREES." (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.

Mr A. McLennan
Care Post Office Cooktown Qld

5th Nov 1923

Dear Sir,

Since writing last Sunday, the box of specimens, packet of collecting notes & Halls Key, have turned up safely. The skins are nice, but I'd like to have had more; the Selectos ~~was~~ is wanted badly, viz a pair in full plumage. I hope the locality you are in now will yield better results.

Mr A. J. Campbell who has lately been at the Adelaide Conference of the RAOU tells me the Adelaide Museum has specimens of the Groote Eylandt magpie, taken during 1921 by a collector whose name he could not remember. At the Checklist Conference, some of the members wished to ~~treat~~ place the bird in a new species, but were over ruled.

I am sending reprints of last "Emu" articles to Sergt McGrechan & Mr D. Anderson, & hope same may reach them safely.

I understand that the young Golden Shouldered Parrots that you brought down are all doing well.

Kind regards.

Yours faithfully
H. L. White

Coen

7/11/22

Dear Mr.White

In my letter of last mail, 24/10/22. I told you I was going to try the scrub to the east of Coen, about the head of that river and of Lankelly creek, as I heard that conditions were favourable there. After posting it I heard of a couple of other places,(Klondyke, S.E. end of Rocky scrub; and Massey Rvr on the east side), that promised to be even better; so decided to try them first. I have been to both places, and am sorry to have to report no success at either. Klondyke needed no more than a glance over, to decide that it was no good; but the Massey river country appeared to be an ideal place. The scrubs there are the best that I have yet seen up north; but the remarkable scarcity of bird life and the few species met with in them, has got me puzzled. I am forwarding the notes up to date, so it is no good reiterating what little is in them.

On reaching here today I wired you as follows." Have been right round to Massey river stop Drought conditions prevailing everywhere stop Only one chance of finding suitable country left".

I intended trying the scrub to the east of here and if that was no good; to wire you again suggesting the abandonment of the trip and asking your advice, re proceeding to the Alligator river N.T.

Since the arrival of the mail, by which, I received two letters from you, dated October 15 and 22, the latter registered, I have been in a quandary as to what to do

The cause of the quarrel, is the following paragraph quoted from your letter of October 22.

" Owing to the great expense that your collecting now puts me to, I have decided to terminate our connection in this respect, as soon as your Rocky trip is over; in any case not later than the end of December next."

This is rather vague, and may be interpreted in several different ways. You could say that the Rocky trip is over now, as I have not been able to get in anywhere to date.

It might have simplified matters a lot if you had stated what you considered the great expense to be, and it also would have been much nicer to me if I knew that it is the extra expense incurred in taking a white man out with me.

When we initially, I told you that I would have to take a white man out with me, and explained the reason why; you did not raise any objection then. Had you done so, I certainly would not have spent the money that I did, in purchasing a good camera, lens, etc, so as to be able to do the most work possible with the least waste of time. However its all in the interest of science.

Last season I got two or three some-what similar letters from you, with others following, asking me to continue on with the work, but they were not registered. So this time I consider it definite that I finish my collecting for you December 31st.

Yours sincerely,

W.M.Lemmer

NEW SNAKE

Venomous Giant

McLENNAN'S NAMESAKE

Although the west coast of Cape York Peninsula was the first part of Australia, as far as we know, to be seen by white men, the country behind it is even to-day one of the least known regions of Australia.

A huge venomous snake, far bigger than any venomous snake hitherto known in Australia, has just been given to the Australian Museum by Mr. H. L. White, of Belltrees, Scone (N.S.W.), for whom it was obtained at Coen by Mr. W. McLennan. It will be named after Mr. McLennan.

This snake, which will be described for the first time in the records of the museum, is not only a new species, but belongs to a new genus. It is brown in color, and at Coen is called the brown snake, but is not closely related to the mouse-catching brown snake of New South Wales. Its nearest relation is probably the black snake (Pseudechis porphyriacus). But it has him beaten, both in size and in venom.

"WORST IN AUSTRALIA"

The specimen which Mr. McLennan secured is 9 feet 6 inches long, but inhabitants of Coen talk of snakes 10 or 11 feet long. The fangs are nearly twice as long as those of the largest death adder Nothing is known about the nature of its venom, but it has an extra large supply, and Mr. J. R. Kinghorn, the Museum's snake expert, considers that it is probably the worst snake in Australia.

There are, of course, larger venomous snakes in other parts of the world, such as the king cobra of India, the bushmaster of South America, and some of the banded sea snakes. These may grow to 12 or 13 feet, but McLennan's find is about half as big again as Australia's previous record.

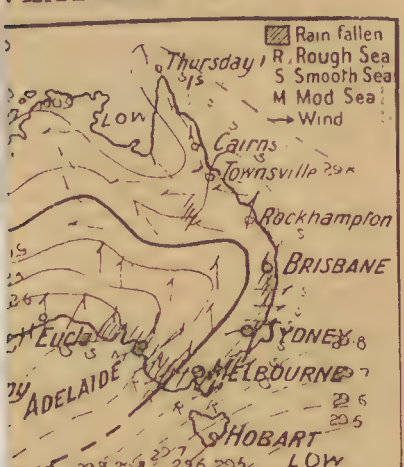
his contention would advertise for respectable servants and make suggestions to them.

If he failed to prove that there was no looseness among young women, he would hand £5 to any fund which his landlady or her two daughters might nominate.

Mitchell agreed to interview young respectable women with a view to finding out whether there was any looseness of present-day morals. When the scheme had been fully tried, Mitchell was to write to the girls who had answered his advertisement, explain about the bet, and make an apology for his conduct.

Mitchell, in the witness-box, said he was only actuated by his desire to prove his theory about morals. He had invented imaginative situations in order to carry out his investigations, but had no criminal intention.

WEATHER MAP



ly; and many of the minimums west from ties (deg.).

he cool change, the pressure systems moved accompanying chart a marked tendency t the high, and the one valued at 29.9 Occasionally such a lag or slow movement to the development of rain (when the apid movements are opposed. Reports t from those to hand, Winton had a thun- sbane also had 10 points. Slight tropical nd northern areas of West Australia, but

In Victoria, some scattered light rain

"BELLTREES," (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.,
12th Nov 1922

Mr Wm Lemmon
Care Via Cootamundra

Dear Sir

Your wire of the 7th. Just reached me at Mech, it has been right round to Macquarie River. Drought conditions prevail everywhere. Only one chance of finding suitable country left. You are indeed experiencing a bad time; the same drought conditions exist where Whitlock & Jackson are working. I cannot stand the expense any longer, & as stated previously must knock you off at the end of this present year, or when the Rocky Scrub Rib is over.

I enclose a cutting re your big snake; the information must have come from some Museum official.

I'd like more skins of Hemipielia hemipi if you see a chance.

Yours faithfully H. L. White

HOLOSUM

Coen

15/11/22

Dear Mr. White

When I wrote you last week I was not feeling too well, had an attack of fever coming on, which later developed and laid me up for a few days. I was not able to make a start out till Sunday 12th; I then went out to try the country east of here, about the heads of Coen and Lockelly rivers; found the same conditions existing there, as elsewhere. No feed for the horses, very little water, and the same remarkable scarcity of bird life. The whole place was alive with horse and cattle Ticks; the horses got covered with them the first day, so also did we; nothing else for it but to return.

On reaching here I heard that there had been a good fall of rain out Attack creek way, so I wired asking your advice re trying there. No rain here yet though there has been fairly good storms further north. This afternoon it looked as if we were going to get a storm here, but it passed miles away to the westward.

In my last letter I intended to ask you as to the disposal of the surplus stores and equipment, but I forgot all about it. I will be able to sell all of the stores and a good deal of the equipment at cost, plus freight; but there will be a good bit of equipment left. I may be able to take over some of it myself, as I will not be able to get away from here till

after the wet season "provided we get one" is over; no supply that comes to Ft Stewart during the first three months of the year.

Will you please forward me the price list of things that I got from Cowles and Dunn; and also from Beaumonts, as I did not get a price list from either firm.

Sincerely Yours

W. Mc. Lennan

Coen.

6/12/22.

Dear Mr White,

I returned from Attack creek scrub on Friday; I gave the country there a good look over, but could not find a suitable collecting ground. With the exception of the Parrot, (G.personatus) I could not find any of the other species that I wanted. As I did not consider that I had a reasonable chance of doing any good in the time at my disposal, I decided that it would be best to abandon the trip. If I thought that there was a chance of getting a decent lot of skins I would have had a try for them, but the variety of species was so few in number, it was not worth while.

I am forwarding you the notes up to date of my return here, also a list of exes and of surplus stores and equipment. I have made out a list of what I can take over myself, but as I have not got a statement of prices from either Beaumonts or Cowles & Dunn, I could not make up the cost of same to credit you with the amount.

As I will be here until March next year would you please forwar the amount due, to my account Queensland National Bank, Cooktown. I would be greatly obliged if you would wire the amount through, debiting the cost to me.

I was extremely sorry to learn of Mrs. Whites ilness and I sincerely hope that She has quite recovered long before this reaches you.

Sincerely yours

LIST OF SURPLUS STORES

Flour	7 tins 50 lbs each.
Sugar	1 bag 70 lbs.
Tea	5 lbs.
Kidney Beans	40 lbs.
C.of Tartar	2 lbs.
C.of Soda	1 lb.
Beef Sausages	2½ doz tins.
Salmon	7 tins.
Whitebait	5 tins.
Peas	2 doz tins.
Rex Cheese	14 tins.
Jam	3½ doz tins.
Oatmeal	6 tins.
Potatoes	22 tins.
Milk	6 tins.
Curry-powder	1 tin.
Soup Sausages	2 doz.
Bovril	7 bot.
Sauce	6 bot.
Honey	2 bot.
Trade Tobacco	10 lbs.
Havelock Tobacco	2 lbs.
Canvas Boots	2 pairs.

Capped shells 20 gauge.	700.
No 6 shot Cartridges.	75.
Amberite powder.	1 lb.
Automatic Cartridges.	100.
Grease proof wads.	1000.
Cardboard wads.	1000.
Felt wads.	1 lb.
Oil 3in1.	1 tin.

Dear Mr.White,

If agreeable to you, I will take over the above stores, etc. As I have not got a statement of prices from either Beaumont or Cowles and Dunn; would you kindly make out the amount due, and debit it to me.

_____

LIST OF EXES ROCKY SCRUB TRIP

1922		£	s	d
Sept- 8th	- To S.Kennedy, wharfage on stores Pt.Stewart-		15	0
12th	- To M.Shephard, carriage of stores and gear from Pt.Stewart to Coen; 1 ton. -	5	0	0
13th	- Wire to H.L.White. -		2	3
14th	- To Hotel, boxes for timber to make Pack boxes. -		5	0
19th	- Registered packet. -		1	1
20th	- To H.Thompson, salt beef, 20 lbs. -		10	0
20th	- To Hotel, meals from Sept.11 to 20th. -	2	14	0
Oct - 10th	- Wire to H.L.White. -		3	0
10th	- To Ned Waters, wages from Sept.20th to Oct.10th, 3 weeks at £ 2-10. -	7	10	0
12th	- Wire to H.L.White. -		2	4
12th	- Postage on Box of Specimens, 4 lbs. -		2	2
	Mailmans charge. -		2	0
	Packet, parcels post, 2 lbs. -		1	2
	Packet, registered post. -		1	5
13th	- To Evans & Armbrust, salt beef, 19 lbs. -		9	6
13th	- To Hotel, meals from Oct 10 to 13th. -	1	0	0
25th	- Postage on Box of Specimens. -		3	8
	Mailmans charge. -		3	0
	Registered letter. -			6
26th	- To Evans & Armbrust, salt beef, 5 lbs. -		2	6
26th	- To Hotel, meals from Oct.22 to 26th. -	1	4	0
Nov - 7th	- Wire to H.L.White. -		2	0
8th	- Registered packet. -		1	0
12th	- To Evans & Armbrust, salt beef,10 lbs. -		5	0
12th	- To Hotel, meals from Nov.7 to 12th. -	1	0	0
15th	- Wire to H.L.White -		1	9
17th	- To Evans & Armbrust, salt beef, 10 lbs. -		5	0
		22	7	4

1922		£	s	d
Nov -17th -	To Hotel, meals from Nov. 15 to 17th.	-	14	6
30th -	To Bill Shepherd, wages from Oct. 13th to Nov. 30th; 7 weeks at £2-10.	- 17	10	0
30th -	To H.Thompson, hire of horses and gear from Sept.15 to Nov.30th; 11 weeks at £1.	- 11	0	0
30th -	To D.Anderson, rent of store-room from Sept.12 to Dec.4th; 12 weeks at 2/6.	- 1	10	0
30th -	Stamps to date.	-	1	0
30th -	To Self, wages from Sept.3rd to Nov.30th; 89 days at 25/- per day.	-111	5	0
	To Return fare to Sydney. Coen to Cooktown £6. Cooktown to Sydney £19-10.	- 25	10	0
		167	15	6
	Brought forward	- 22	7	4
	Total	- 189	17	4
	Credits as per attached List	- 13	18	5
		176	0	11

Balance= £176 0 11

CREDITS

	£	s	d
Oilskin Coat and Cape.	6	0	0
2 suits of Khaki.	3	0	0
Medicine chest account.	2	17	9
1 Battery and Bulb for Electric Torch.		4	6
100 Cartridges, 410 gauge.	1	0	0
Bacon, 12 lbs @ 1/2.		14	6
Total = £	13	16	5

"LIST OF EQUIPMENT"

Tent Fly, 14x16. special.	1
Tent Fly, 12x14.	1
Tent, 10x12.	1
Pack covers.	4
Camp bed.	1
Acetelyne lamp and spare parts.	1
Patent links for Hobbles.	1 doz.
Scrub Knife.	1
Coil of Copper wire.	1
Tomahawks.	2
Rope ladder.	1
Axe.	1
Shovel.	1
Saw.	1
Plane.	1
Square.	1
Hammer.	1
Tin.plates.	2
Tin. mugs.	2
Knives.	2
Forks.	2
Tin. dish.	1
Tin dish.	1
Camp oven.	1
Frying pan.	1
Billies.	3
Camphor-wood box.	1
Tow line.	1

---oooOooo---

Cotton wool.	4 lbs.
Skin & plain labels.	
Data slips, etc.	
Note books.	4
Bot. Indian ink.	1
Card of tapping pens.	1
Ferrules for rod.	6
Butterfly net.	1
Aneroid barometer.	1
Camera Kodak 1A .	1

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[illegible] - 1/10/22 - Geoffroyus personatus. Female. Immature.

Length,225mm. Wing 146mm. Culmen 20mm. Tarsus 17mm. Irides,sulphur yellow. Bill,dark olive brown;cere,dark yellowish olive. Legs,dark yellowish olive. Crop,buds of flowering tree, and Wattle seeds with vegetable matter attached. Stomach,similar.

[illegible] - 2/10/22 - Ptilotis analoga. Male.

Length 191mm. Wing 85mm. Culmen 20mm. Tarsus 24mm. Irides,mummy brown. Bill,black;edge of gape lemon yellow. Legs, deep neutral grey tinged brown. Stomach,insect remains.

10 - 2/10/22 - Craspedophora alberti. Male. Immature.

Length 307mm. Wing 156mm. Culmen 51mm. Tarsus 40mm. Irides,very dark mummy brown. Bill,black;edge of gape light viridine yellow. Legs,slate grey. Stomach,Wattle seeds with vegetable matter attached.

11 - 6/10/22 - Small animal. Male.

Total length 267mm. Length from tip of nose to base of tail 151mm. Irides,brown. Stomach,empty.

12 - 12/10/22 - Strepera graculina. Male.

Length 523mm. Wing 279mm. Culmen 76mm. Tarsus 55mm. Irides,rich lemon yellow. Bill,black. Legs,black. Stomach, stones of wild Cherry.

13 - 12/10/22 - Strepera graculina. Male.

Length 500mm. Wing 263mm. Culmen 68mm. Tarsus 55mm. Irides,rich lemon yellow. Bill,black. Legs,black. Stomach, River Wattle seeds with vegetable matter attached.

14 - 13/10/22 - Strepera graculina. Female.

Length 443mm. Wing 251mm. Culmen 58mm. Tarsus 49mm. Irides,rich lemon yellow. Bill,black. Legs,black. Stomach,empty.

15 - 23/11/22 - Eclectus pectoralis. Male.

Length 447mm. Wing 288mm. Culmen 44mm. Tarsus 30mm. Irides, scarlet red. Bill upper, terminal third cadmium, base scarlet red; lower bill black. Legs dark neutral grey. Crop and stomach, portions of seeds and nuts of various kinds.

16 - 23/11/22 - Eclectus pectoralis. Female.

Length 436mm. Wing 275mm. Culmen 39mm. Tarsus 26mm. Irides empire yellow. Bill black. Legs dark neutral grey. Crop and stomach, portions of seeds and nuts of various kinds.

LIST OF EGGS

1 - 21/10/22 - M.aterrimus. 1 set 1 egg. $\frac{1}{1}$

2 - 23/10/22 - G.scripta. 1 set 2 eggs. $\frac{2}{2}$

3 - 29/10/22 - C.melanonota. 1 set 2 eggs. $\frac{3}{2}$

4 - 2/11/22 - E.pectoralis. 1 set 1 egg. $\frac{4}{1}$

5 - 29/11/22 - C.quoyi. 1 set 3 eggs. $\frac{5}{3}$

6 - 29/11/22 - E.pectoralis. 1 set 2 eggs. $\frac{6}{2}$

7 - 1/12/22 - E.australis. 1 set 3 eggs. $\frac{7}{3}$

BELLTREES,

SCONE,

9th Dec 1902

Mr W. M. Lemman
Coen Via Cooktown

Dear Sir

Your wire of the 8th Inst is to hand: it reads "Address Coen do not know when can get away from here". I had intended writing at some length, but an urgent wire calls me to my wife, who is still very seriously ill in a Sydney private hospital.

Forgot whether I told you that the skin you sent, marked Hemipeles, is really Microveca flaviventris. The box containing Strepera skins reached me safely, these specimens should settle the identity definitely.

I sent the small marsupial skin to the Sydney museum, & attach a copy of remarks upon Pascogale flaviceps: sorry for your sake the animal is not new.

My luck has quite forsaken me this season: three of the best collectors in Australia not having secured a single clutch of eggs: each of you report in the same terms: "drought conditions, birds not breeding". Whitlock is unable to supply any information, other than what you already possess, about your Talbra disappearance: nor can he locate the place name you inquired about. I am disappointed at not receiving more skins from you: the lack of eggs cannot be helped of course.

Kind regards.

Yours faithfully
H. L. White

BEMOLCSURE

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

"BELLTREES." (TELEPHONE STATION)
SCONE,
N.S.W.

ENOLOSURE

Mr W. McLennan
Coen Via Cooktown

19th Dec 1927

Dear Sir

I delayed answering your last, pending a reply to my wire offering an engagement until means of transport were available. Your reply is now to hand, it reads "Conditions here not good enough to warrant further expenditure thanks for offer"

At the request of Mr A. J. Campbell, I am writing you this morning as follows "Have you ever observed Rare" "Crowned Fruit Pigeon, Ptilinopus swingi, on Cape York peninsula reply paid". St. G. Barnard took eggs said to have been of this species on the Cape, but doubt is expressed whether the bird has ever been noted outside the N. Territory. I'll be obliged by your deciding the question.

According to request I enclose receipted statements in connection with stuff purchased by you in Sydney: Kindly let me have the papers back again. From your diary I notice a few eggs were taken, amongst them a Geoffroyus: you might send them along at your convenience.

The scarcity of birds during your late trip is quite unaccountable, & why the same state of affairs existed over most of Australia at the same time is very remarkable. I am disappointed at not getting skins of the rare parrots & electus & Geoffroyus.

With compts of the season
Mrs White is slightly better.

Yours faithfully
H. L. White